

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
AMARILLO DIVISION**

Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

and

State of Missouri, *et al.*,

Intervenor-Plaintiffs,

v.

U.S. Food and Drug Administration, *et al.*,

Defendants,

and

Danco Laboratories, LLC,

Intervenor-Defendant.

Case No. 2:22-cv-00223-Z

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO AMEND COMPLAINT

The States of Missouri, Kansas, and Idaho seek to amend their complaint pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 15. The States have not yet amended their complaint, and there is no prejudice to Defendants because they are in a similar situation to if the States simply filed a suit anew.

I. The Court should permit amendment.

The States seek leave under Rule 15 to amend to provide greater factual support for the theories earlier presented in the initial complaint. The proposed

amended complaint challenges the same FDA actions as in the original complaint; it simply includes additional factual support. Some paragraphs in the proposed amended complaint concern facts that postdate that complaint, but the nature of those facts is similar to facts underlying the original complaint. For example, the amended complaint discusses August 2024 reporting in the *Wall Street Journal* about “pill-packing parties” where out-of-state organizations rely on FDA’s actions to “help strangers in faraway states circumvent strict laws.” Scott Calvert, *The Parties Where Volunteers Pack Abortion Pills for Red-State Women*, Wall Street Journal (Aug. 12, 2024).¹ These allegations are similar to those in the original complaint, which discussed out-of-state organizations in New York using the “FDA-approved pipeline” to ship chemical abortion pills into States like Missouri. ECF 151-1 ¶ 288. On August 19, 2024, counsel for the States informed Defendants and Intervenor-Defendants of their intention to seek leave to amend. They oppose this motion.

Particularly here, where the States have not yet amended their complaint, “[t]he court should freely give leave.” Rule 15(a)(2). Absent extraordinary circumstances, each plaintiff is generously afforded a first “opportunity to amend or supplement the pleadings freely, so that he may state his best case.” *Wicks v. Mississippi State Empl. Servs.*, 41 F.3d 991, 997 (5th Cir. 1995). Rule 15 creates a “liberal amendment policy,” so a motion “should not be denied unless there is ‘undue delay, bad faith or dilatory motive on the part of the movant, repeated failure to cure deficiencies by amendments previously allowed [or] undue prejudice to the opposing

¹ <https://www.wsj.com/us-news/abortion-pill-parties-shipping-148e3c15>

party by virtue of allowance of the amendment.”” *United States ex rel. Willard v. Humana Health Plan of Tex., Inc.*, 336 F.3d 375, 386 (5th Cir. 2003) (citation omitted).

None of those conditions is present here.

The filing of this Amended Complaint will not result in prejudice to Defendants. Defendants’ deadline to answer has been stayed for over a year. *See* ECF 144. The parties have not conducted discovery, and Defendants have not yet served their initial disclosures under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a). This motion is not filed for purposes of delay, and no scheduling order will be disturbed by the entry of the Amended Complaint.

Prayer for Relief

For the reasons stated above, the States request that this Court grant them leave to file their First Amended Complaint (and exhibits thereto), attached as Exhibits A–G to this motion.

Dated: October 11, 2024

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Respectfully submitted,

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**Pro hac vice application forthcoming

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on October 11, 2024, a true and accurate copy of the foregoing document was filed electronically (via CM/ECF) and served on all counsel of record.

/s/ *Joshua M. Divine*
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